Terrible News from BRAINFORD:

OR,

A perfect and true Relation of one *Thompſon* a Waterman, and two more of that Function, being drinking in exceſs at *Brainford*, at the Houſe of one Mrs. *Phillpots*, Thurſday night, *September* 12. began a Health to the Devil, and another to his Dam; at which falling dead againſt the Table: With the Devils appearing in the Room viſible, the Burial of the ſinful Wretch; his Corps ſeeming heavy at firſt, but the Coffin afterward as light, as if there had been nothing in it.

To the Tune of, *Chievy Chaſe.*

All you which ſober minded are,
come liſten and Ile tell,
The ſaddeſt ſtory Ile declare,
which in our dayes befell:
Therefore 'tis for example ſake,
the buſineſs written is,
That others may a warning take
by ſuch lewd lives as theſe.

My matter now I have in hand,
doth very doleful run;
In Brainford you ſhall underſtand
this horrid act was done:
Three Watermen a drinking were,
ſome ſay in Phillpots houſe,
Who very deſperately did ſwear,
they would have one Caroufe.

To every friend as they could think,
abroad the world ſo wide,
A Glaſs unto his Health would drink,
whatever did betide:

So many Healths about did paſs,
which is a ſhame to tell;
They knew not who to drink unto,
except the Devil of Hell.

Quoth one and ſwore the Pot ſhall paſs,
be it to good or evil;
And if thou wilt but pledge a Glaſs,
Ile drink unto the Devil:
The other ſaid I willing am,
call in for Sack about us;
Ile drink another to his Dam,
it ſhall not go without us.

With that he bowed down his head,
and ſuddenly did fall;
He ſunk againſt the Table dead,
in preſence of them all:
His vitals then with death was ſtung,
throughout eternally,
His Noſe upon the Table hung,
a ghaſtly ſight to ſee.

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The ſecond Part, to the ſame Tune.

THe others then with fearfulneſs,
their legs were ſmitten ſo
With horrour and with feebleneſs,
they knew not what to do:
But ſtaring in the dead mans face,
they dolefully did cry,
God people help us in this place,
help, help, or elſe we dye.

Which horrid doleful voices then
put all the houſe in fear,
Who nimbly up the ſtairs ran,
to ſee what news was there:
And being come, good Lord how then
they trembled in the place;
And queſtiond then the living men,
like wretches void of Grace.

How came this horrid diſmal fate,
declare it good or evil;
For we did hear you once relate
A Healths unto the Devil:
'Tis very true, quoth they, by ſtealth
that act we once began;
And I my ſelf did pledge the Health,
and drank unto his Dam.

At which they all were trembling than,
though faint and yet unable;
They did endeavour with the man,
to lay him on the Table:
Which time one knocked at the door,
but going for to ſee,
An ill-ſhap't Devil in did bore
amongſt their company.

And being come unto the light,
their hearts were very cold;
The Devil did appear in ſight,
more wonderous to behold:
But when they on their knees did fall,
and to the Lord did pray;
The Devil vaniſht from them all,
and quickly went his way.

But when the morrow did begin,
a Coffin then was brought;
And placed then the Corps therein,
which all this miſchief wrought.

The four Bearers did complain,
and to the people ſay,
It ſeem'd the heavieſt Corps that e'er
they carried on the way:
But yet the caſe did alter quite,
e'er to the Church they came,
The Coffin it did ſeem ſo light,
as if nothing had been in.

Now let all men a warning take,
by Thomſons dreadful fall,
And drunken company forſake,
ſo God preſerve us all,
And keep us ſtill from great exceſs
of drinking which is evil;
And never in ſuch drunkenneſs
drink healths unto the Devil.

FINIS.

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